

# THE ALBUQUERQUE CITIZEN

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## EVIL OF CARELESSNESS

One of the things that exert a tremendous influence in life is carelessness. It is more common than stupidity, more disastrous than incompetency. The chief of the Pennsylvania bureau of mines and mining has just reported that of the 535 lives lost in the past year in coal mines of that state 282 were lost through carelessness of the victims and 55 through the carelessness of other persons. Analysis of the statistics of railway accidents shows that an astonishing proportion of the deaths and injuries are due to carelessness of the victims. When the commonness of trespass and disregard of the simplest rules for safety is taken into the reckoning the wonder is not that so many are killed and injured, but that so many seem miraculously to escape. And yet carelessness to the degree of being killed is rare in comparison with carelessness in everyday duties. The lives snuffed out through carelessness may be counted, but there can be no record of the infinitely greater number of opportunities in life that are lost through it. Carelessness can neutralize talent as oil neutralizes acid. Abilities are mighty forces in the world, but the finest abilities ever developed in a brain may be rendered ineffective and impotent by carelessness.

Untold legions of young men, well trained for their work, industrious and ambitious to get ahead, fail to rise above the average success. The chances are that if they will make a careful study of themselves they will find that carelessness is affecting the everyday performance of their work as the deadly cancer worm affects the growth of a seemingly thrifty plant. More disastrous still, more fatal to the real life of this world, is the common carelessness which prevents us all from being at our best and making the most of our opportunities.

## BURDENS OF TAXATION

It is said that the city and county of Denver collects a greater sum in city and county taxes than does the entire territory of New Mexico in all its territorial, county, city, school and special taxes. This is advanced as proof of the fact that "while the tax rate in New Mexico seems high, yet the low assessment rate makes taxes very low compared with the taxes collected in neighboring commonwealths."

But this altogether depends. There is a man in this city who came here about two years ago. His furniture was valued for taxation at \$100, after exemptions, and on that \$100 he paid \$10.80 for taxes for one year. Another man, residing in this city, owned a piece of property in another New Mexico town, from which he had been absent for several years. He recently sold it for less than \$2,000—considerably less—and yet for ten years his taxes on that property ran from \$60 to \$70.

Does any one suppose that if all the property of the territory were listed at two-thirds or even half of its real value, if a general tax rate were adopted on this valuation sufficient only to meet current expenses, and if all were compelled to pay their taxes—does any one suppose that under such conditions, either of these men and hundreds of others like them would be required to pay such abnormal taxes? The present custom of no particular standard of valuation, provided only the assessor puts it low enough, with the enormous tax rate adopted, bears most heavily on the people of small holdings and most lightly on those whose holdings are large.

## THE FAIR'S OUTLOOK

The citizen congratulates Albuquerque and also the entire territory on the magnificent outcome in the affairs of the Territorial Fair Association. Last night's developments show conclusively that Albuquerque is the right place for the territorial fair, and that Albuquerque people still have the grit, the get-there-ell, and the never say die, which have characterized the Duke City ever since the new town was projected, and which for a quarter of a century have made the territorial fair, through home effort, far and away the largest of the territorial institutions. The superb magnanimity of the retiring president and secretary in donating their respective salaries remaining unpaid, of the Traction company in donating the use of the park without restrictions, and of the incoming officials in donating their services free of reward for the incoming year—these things have raised the tide of enthusiasm not only to high water mark but to a maximum never before even imagined. To raise the remaining deficit, already reduced, and to secure at once pledges for the coming season, should be as easy as falling off a log. No Albuquerquean, under the stimulus of such examples and under the leadership of such tried and true officials as the new board, can now hold back for a moment, even if he tried to. The on-sweeping flood of general action will sweep any laggard from his feet.

The city of Albuquerque wants street crossings and macadamized roadways. The city of Santa Fe needs more brick sidewalks and more street crossings. Both towns should have what they need. It is up to the city administrations in both cases that they act for the best interests of the people as a whole and for the many visitors and sojourners within the gates of their municipalities. The good of the greatest number should be the principle to be observed. There are always property holders who have no interest in the advancement, the health and the prosperity of the community in which they live and who will not carry out the city ordinances that may entail cost upon them. The selfish disposition of such property owners and kickers should not be heeded. City ordinances providing for the construction of brick pavements and crossings should be enforced and that speedily. Again, the principle "the greatest good for the greatest number" should prevail, especially in this city.—New Mexican.

There are at least 8,000 people in the United States who are interested in the pollution of the inland waters of the country, for an edition of that many copies of Water Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 103 of the United States Geological Survey, which was a review of the laws forbidding such pollution, was exhausted almost as soon as published. A second edition has just been gotten out by the survey as Water Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 152. One of the topics treated of, and one with which Albuquerque will soon be free to face, is "the condition under which, and the extent to which public municipalities may use inland waters in disposing of sewage matter from public sewers." All interested in this question can get the paper free by asking for it, addressing Director of Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

The Las Vegas high school has decided to enter the inter-scholastic oratorical contest which is to be held in Albuquerque on December 27. A preliminary contest to select a representative of the high school is to be held about ten days before this time and thus far seven contestants have entered for this. They are: Milton Hawkins, May Howell, Clarence Williams, Lawrence Clark, Amelia Turner, Helen Schaefer and Beulah Hartman. The school authorities hope to be able to offer a first and second prize for this contest and the winner, of course, will represent the high school at Albuquerque.—Daily Optic.

The San Bernardino County Fruit Exchange shipped over 154,000 boxes, or 1,420 cars of 362 boxes each, in the season which has just closed, these figures being an increase of over 20 per cent, as compared with last year's shipments, and the financial returns were over 40 per cent above those of the season before. The gross value of this fruit in the east was \$1,155,000, and the net f. o. b. return to San Bernardino county growers who shipped through the county exchange, \$370,000. Herein lies an example and an exhortation to New Mexico.

## RELATION OF SEX TO SUICIDE STATISTICS

Recent official statistics of suicide show some strange ways of the human mind. For instance, it appears that other things being equal a married man is much more likely to commit suicide than a bachelor. But women who are single, spinsters, divorcees or widows, seem to find life less worth living than do their married sisters.

Neither ill-health nor alcohol is such a potent cause of suicide as business losses. Even unfortunate love affairs do not cause as much weariness of life as does loss of money. This is why there are few suicides committed on Saturday. Those who have worried through the week have received their pay, and the strain is temporarily relieved, or, if being pressed hard in business affairs, there is a day of immunity at hand in which something may turn up. Monday, black Monday, is the day when those faced by business disaster seem most disposed to give up the struggle.

The day when women find domestic troubles most unbearable is Sunday. And their commonest time for suicide is between 9 and 12 in the evening. Though married women do not give up to suicide as much as do unmarried ones, it looks as if the husband's being around home for a whole day contributes to the tendency. Or, perhaps, the Saturday night and Sunday drunk drives the wife to despair and death. But who is there can analyze the woe which drives women to take refuge in death on the day that should be the most peaceful and happy of all the week?

We call women the "weaker sex," and yet in the 29,344 cases officially recorded in this country in a period of three years, the suicide of men outnumbered that of women in the proportion of seven to two.

## THOSE WHO WOULD DELAY PANAMA CONSTRUCTION

The interests which would benefit most largely through delay or failure of the Panama canal project are marshaling their forces of opposition and obstruction for a concerted move on congress when it assembles next month. For fully fifty years the American people have discussed the question of connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans with a canal across the isthmus, and while the advantages to be gained by the decrease in rates of transportation and the shortening of sailing time between this country and the orient, between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of this country, between Europe and the orient and between this country and its insular possessions in the Pacific, have been acknowledged by all, yet the opposition to the canal successfully resisted every effort to make it a reality until Theodore Roosevelt appeared on the scene.

But even this potential force behind the project has not deterred the obstructionists. They are, as Mr. Shonts pointed out in his speech before the American Hardware Manufacturers' association at Washington, still spreading the claim that the canal project will fail and that the president himself is convinced of the futility of the plan to link the oceans with a canal at Panama. Mr. Shonts told the hardware men that the canal will be built and that the work of construction will actively begin July 1, 1906. He outlined the work already done at Panama and Colon. A system of water works has been installed, sewers have been built, the accumulated refuse of ages has been removed, yellow fever has been driven from the isthmus, and the first million of brick for paving Panama streets is on the ground. The canal commission is eliminating the worst foe the laborers will encounter before turning loose an army of workmen to build the great waterway.

Mr. Shonts deplored the fact that organized labor is seeking to burden the canal work with restrictions applicable to labor in the United States but uncalled for on the isthmus. He said the application of the eight-hour law, of the contract labor law, of the Chinese exclusion act, would be a serious error. Over 80 per cent of the canal employees will be aliens. As Mr. Shonts pointed out, the application of those laws on the isthmus will benefit an exceptionally small number of Americans, as the 20 per cent of Americans employed there will be largely in a clerical capacity, while such laws would add enormously to the cost of construction, and American labor at home would have to pay its share of the consequent increase in taxation.

## VALUE OF A WOMAN'S HAIR IN ESTIMATION OF HUSBAND

Is each and every one of the hairs of a woman's head worth \$2 to her husband? It is a question to be settled in court. Levi Harrington, in playful mood (?) secured by stealth a lock of Mrs. John Goddard's golden hair. Carrying the joke further, he for weeks made life a burden to her by threatening to tell John Goddard that she had given the lock of hair as a token of affection. Driven to desperation, Mrs. Goddard attempted forcibly to regain possession of her property, but was arrested for disturbing the peace and fined in police court.

Thus Goddard got wise. Like a good husband, he declined to doubt his wife and has sued Harrington in replevin of the stolen tress and for damages at the rate of \$2 a hair. This happened in Kansas. Had it happened among New York's 400 the husband would probably have paid blackmail and sued for divorce.

Two dollars a hair may seem a high price, but that is a question of individual judgment. It depends somewhat on the hair. Evidently this was not of the "blondine" type, but genuinely golden. Then, too, the value of a woman's hair is affected very largely in a man's mind by his affection for her. Poets have striven, poets have sung and sighed, to express the richness of a woman's hair in the mind of the man who loves her. But there are other times when a brute of a man may pull out a whole hand full of his wife's hair and not count it any less.

## SELECTIONS MADE FROM PRESS OF SOUTHWEST

### Look At Home First.

Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden, the president of the International Sunshine Society, has sent out an appeal for Christmas donations for the poor, and it is desired to send a box from Farmington. These gifts will be sent to the poor and needy, the friendless and "shut-in" wherever they will carry a little sunshine. Think of the Christmas cheer that fills your happy home, then think of the sad and lonely little ones of whom Santa Claus has not heard.—Farmington Enterprise.

### Colorado Made Paper.

The Denver Post announces that the Denver Paper mills will be re-opened, and makes the announcement in very red letters. Every Colorado publisher should lend aid and patronage to the enterprise. It will, at least it should, be Colorado paper manufactured from Colorado pulp and utilized by Colorado publishers.—Durango Democrat.

### Cold at Clayton.

Between 500 and 550 head of sheep belonging to Clayton merchants were killed by the cold rain Wednesday in the stock yards at this place. They were brought in to be delivered to foreign buyers.—Clayton Enterprise.



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35c Glass Water Pitchers ..... 20c  
\$1.75 Decorated Lamps ..... \$1.25  
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## I Want to Drop a Hint

About the boy's clothing question. The boy who is clothed here will wear better clothes and he'll wear them longer than he will if his parents are not particular about where they buy.

2 piece Suits, from ..... \$3.00 to \$6.00  
3 piece Suits, from ..... \$4.50 to \$7.50  
Blouse Suits, from ..... \$4.50 to \$6.50  
Boys Overcoats, from ..... \$3.50 to \$9.00

I never deal in trash. It's nothing short of wasting money to buy poor, cheap clothes for a boy.

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